



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD - **Public Hearing**

Conrail Derailment in Paulsboro, NJ with Vinyl Chloride Release

GROUP	3
EXHIBIT	
AE	

Agency / Organization

US Coast Guard

Title

US Coast Guard Area Contingency Plan

Section 1500 - State Response System

1500 State Response System

This Area Contingency Plan coordinates with the state response systems of Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The following information was supplied by the above referenced states and was adopted into this plan with minor font and formatting changes which did not alter the information or content.

DELAWARE

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), Division of Environmental Control, maintains listings of commercially available resources in Delaware. The department will provide response assistance on oil and hazardous materials incidents, public health exposures, and information and advice concerning local habitat, wildlife, and fisheries. The department is also responsible for enforcement of the state's pollution laws.

Employees of DNREC and Environmental Control's Environmental Response Branch will initially provide personnel to staff the Unified Command System. Additional DNREC personnel will become involved as needed. The DNREC will involve additional Delaware agencies as required. The DNREC will be the primary Delaware contact to the Unified Command System.

Additional information can be found in the Delaware's **Oil and Hazardous Substance Incident Contingency Plan.**

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey is a home rule state. County, state and federal resources support local government. Operational organization for New Jersey state-level response agencies differ from day-to-day in that regional responders from New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) field offices are usually the lead individuals for their respective agencies. In emergencies of extreme magnitude which justify alerting and mustering bureau, division and/or department heads, notification will be made by operational personnel. Whenever, in the opinion of the governor, the control of any disaster is beyond the capabilities of local authorities, the Governor is authorized:

1. To proclaim a "state of emergency" if he/she deems necessary.
2. To assume control of all emergency management operations.
3. To use all resources of state and local governments and commandeer and use personnel services and privately-owned property to avoid or protect against any emergency, subject to future payment of reasonable value.

In the event of a State Disaster Proclamation, the state's response efforts will be coordinated from the State Emergency Operations Center (State EOC), at State Police Headquarters, West Trenton (609) 882-4201. (Philadelphia USCG has the ability to communicate with the EOC via the New Jersey State Police 800 MHz radio, located in the office of Information Resource Management). The Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police, as Director of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM), has been designated to act on behalf of the Governor in emergency situations.

NJOEM is responsible for the coordination of state, county, and municipal response efforts.

NJDEP has the overall responsibility for hazardous material pollution in the state. (New Jersey law defines oil as a hazardous material). The Chief, Bureau of Emergency Response DEP, represents the state on the RRT and is pre-designated the State On-Scene Commander.

In most cases, regional responders from NJOEM and NJDEP will be the lead for state-level personnel and command.

New Jersey State Police Marine Bureau and/or Division of Criminal Justice, county, and local law enforcement agencies have the authority to enforce the New Jersey Clean Water Enforcement Act, NJSA 58:10A-1. Whenever a hazardous material (N.J. law defines oil as a hazardous material) is discharged into the state's fresh or tidal waters, an investigation may be initiated to determine if negligence is involved. If negligence is a contributory factor, civil or criminal proceedings may be implemented.

Operational scenarios - the below listed scenarios reflect a minimum response:

Average Most Probable Discharge

1. DEP

The degree of the discharge will dictate a physical response or just notification of the various state, county, or local authorities.

2. NJOEM

The degree of the discharge will dictate a physical response or just notification of the various state, county, or local authorities.

3. N.J. State Police Marine Bureau and/or the Division of Criminal Justice

The degree of the discharge will dictate physical response.

Maximum Most Probable Discharge

1. DEP
2. NJOEM
The degree of the discharge will dictate a physical response or just notification of the various state, county, or local authorities.
3. N.J. State Police Marine Bureau and/or the Division of Criminal Justice
Most cases, physical response will be initiated.

Worst Case Discharge

1. DEP
2. NJOEM
3. N.J. State Police Marine Bureau and/or the Division of Criminal Justice

Detailed emergency operations procedures can be obtained from the New Jersey State Emergency Operations Plan.

PENNSYLVANIA

COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

1. AVAILABILITY

a. DEP maintains a twenty-four hour, seven days per week availability to receive calls regarding environmental emergencies, natural disasters, or man-made disasters.

b. The Director, Environmental Emergency Response, primary EPLO to PEMA, can be reached, when on duty, by commercial phone or pager. The secondary and tertiary EPLOs can also be reached in this manner. In addition to notification by PEMA, the director or his alternate can be notified independently during major disasters involving activation of the federal, national, or regional contingency plans.

c. Each regional office, and the central office, contracts with an answering service to receive off-hour calls. Each office shall have, at all times, someone available to receive these calls from the answering service, either by being available at a number which the answering service is made aware of or by being within pager range. Direct referral by the answering service is preferred; and, the capability to patch or forward a call directly to the DEP employee should be a requirement of the answering service contracts where available. The DEP employee who receives these calls will have the technical expertise to evaluate the severity of the incident and will have sufficient authority to contact, form, and dispatch an emergency response team. When

personnel other than the Emergency Response Program Manager or the assistant serve in this capacity, the number of such backup personnel should be minimized so that they maintain a familiarity with the emergency response program duties and responsibilities.

2. NOTIFICATION

Notifications to the Department; Notification of environmental emergencies can come from a number of sources, including; fire services, police, emergency medical services, county emergency management agencies, PEMA, EPA, the Coast Guard, regulated industries, or the general public. Regional ERPM's are encouraged to develop personal contacts with the organizations in their regions who may be calling or DEP for assistance so that the regional personnel may be contacted directly. These regionally initiated requests are handled directly by the regions.

(a) Incidents involving potential or actual evacuations, injury or death, major road closings, or train derailment, or major spills or discharges, must be reported to the Director, Environmental Emergency.

(b) Calls referred to the regions from central office may simply be referrals on which no further reports are required or they may require continuing communications. In general, if PEMA becomes involved, the Director, EER, must be kept advised of the status of DEP's involvement until the incident is closed out. The specific requirements for call back will be transmitted with the initial discussions with the central office.

Notifications by the Department

(a) It is the responsibility of the Emergency Response Program Manager or the employee serving in this capacity, to initiate the information flow and assure that the appropriate DEP program staff, the Fish Commission, the County Emergency Management Agencies, the Community Relations Coordinator, the Director, EER, and other parties are notified as appropriate.

(b) DEP program staff are responsible for making their own notifications, e.g., Water Supply and Community Health notifies downstream water users, BWQM notifies affected sewer authorities, the CRC notifies the media when appropriate, and the Director, EER, notifies senior staff, PEMA, and other affected regions or states.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

(a) The department has an extensive VHF radio network that enables virtually statewide communication among technical staff in the field and the regional offices, district offices, and central office.

(b) Each department facility maintains a base station console.

(c) All of the emergency response vehicles and large numbers of program vehicles are equipped with mobile radios.

(d) Portable radios are pooled for field assignment, should out-of-vehicle use be necessary.

(e) The mobile radios assigned to the Emergency Response Teams are capable of accessing PSP, PEMA, and counties radio frequency to facilitate coordination during incidents.

(f) Department EPLOs maintain current office, home, and pager phone numbers with PEMA to assure availability should the EOC be activated or some other response from the Department is requested. The EPLOs maintain a current on/off hour phone list of Emergency Response Program Managers and senior department management.

(g) The Director, EER, has direct access to the Secretary during off-hours.

(h) The Director, EER, maintains two phone lines at his residence in order to more easily accommodate emergency messages.

(i) The Director, the ERPMS, and Assistant ERPMS also have mobile cellular telephones installed in their vehicles.

(j) In the event of activation of the National or Regional Contingency Plans, the Director, EER, or his alternate, can be contacted on a twenty-four hour basis by the RRT Coordinator.

4. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) Regional Emergency Response Program Manager:

- (1) Receives notification of incident from PEMA, EPA, the Coast Guard, County EMA's, fire companies, state or local police, the DEP regulated community, the DEP staff, the statewide duty officer, Director EER, or the general public.
- (2) Makes initial determination whether an immediate response is necessary and whether problem is under Regional Director's authority.
- (3) If no immediate response is necessary, logs relevant information, and forwards to appropriate program area next business day.
- (4) If problem is not under Regional Director's authority, refers to the Director, Environmental Emergency Response, or the appropriate DEP program area.

- (5) If an immediate response is necessary, formulates and coordinates the response through the emergency response staff, the volunteer teams, and the appropriate program bureaus. Manages response from his home, on-site, or the regional office (if wide area radio coverage is necessary for the response).
 - (6) Arranges for necessary staff, equipment, and supplies on scene at the incident.
 - (7) Notifies the Director EER or any major incidents, any incidents involving injuries or death, major highway closings, train derailments, evacuations, or any other incidents of a politically or publicly sensitive nature.
 - (8) Keeps Director informed of the progress of these major incidents, as decided during initial notification.
 - (9) Ensures downstream water users notified of any potential impacts from pollution.
 - (10) Arranges for containment, mitigation, and clean-up of incident, either through the responsible party, a local fire company, or through emergency contract procedures.
 - (11) Serves as DEP team leader on scene at an incident.
 - (12) Provides technical assistance to fire, police, and county EMA's in responding to emergency incidents.
 - (13) Provides a liaison to a specified Area Emergency Operations Center.
- (b) Director, Environmental Emergency Response
- (1) Receives notification of incident from EPA, the Coast Guard, County EMA's, fire companies, state or local police, the DEP regulated community, the DEP staff, the Regional Emergency Response Coordinator, the DEP regulated community, PEMA, or the general public.
 - (2) Refers incidents to the appropriate regional ERPM, or the appropriate program area.
 - (3) Notifies the Secretary and appropriate deputies of any major incidents, any incidents involving injuries or deaths, major highway closings, train derailments, evacuations, or any other incidents of a politically or publicly sensitive nature.
 - (4) Notifies PEMA of any of the above major incidents as soon as confirmation is received from on site or as soon as their need for involvement becomes clear.

- (5) Coordinates with other commonwealth agencies to obtain needed assistance at emergency incidents.
 - (6) Authorizes expenditures of emergency funds to contain, mitigate, or clean-up incidents, when necessary to protect the public health.
 - (7) Deploys emergency response representatives to the State EOC as requested by PEMA, for the coordination of Department emergency activities.
- (c) Regional Emergency Response Staff.
- (1) Serve as technical consultants at emergency incidents to provide consultations on the levels of concern, the potential paths of dispersion, the areas of impact, and protective actions for the public and for the responders.
 - (2) Provide real-time monitoring around the area of an incident to depict the area affected and assist in defining the need for various control zones.
 - (3) Provide assistance in acceptable methods of containment and clean-up and ensure work proceeds in an environmentally acceptable manner.
 - (4) Collect samples at emergency incidents to attempt to characterize the materials involved and the extent of the contamination.
 - (5) Assist other DEP program areas by providing needed resources and assistance during emergency situations.
- (d) Field Operations Programs.
- (1) Air Quality Control:
 - a. Provides assistance in modeling releases of hazardous materials.
 - b. Provides real-time meteorological information at nineteen stations across the state on a 24-hour basis.
 - (2) Water Supply and Community Health.
 - a. Warns downstream water users of potential contamination and recommends protective actions.
 - b. Samples water supplies and emergency water supplies.
 - c. Assists in providing emergency supplies of drinking water.

- d. Inspects evacuation centers, mass care centers, and temporary housing to ensure safe water and sanitary conditions.
- e. Reports any information on damage to public water supply systems to Emergency Response Program Manager or Director Environmental Emergency Response for collation and transmittal to PEMA.
- f. Supplies technical advice in the repair or replacement of public water supply systems damaged during a disaster.
- g. Supplies technical advice and assistance in air, water, food, or vector transmitted diseases.
- h. Conducts field surveys in coordination with the Department of Health of actual or potential public health hazards.
- i. Disseminates information of federal financial assistance available to the operators of publicly owned water supply systems.
- j. Provides staff assistance for the development and promulgation of water conservation orders.
- k. Coordinates emergency sources of water or interconnections with other suppliers for purveyors who are experiencing shortages due to insufficient or contaminated supplies.
- l. Provides technical assistance to water suppliers on conservation or rationing measures.
- m. Prepares and maintains the State Water Plan and other water supply plans identifying communities and water supply systems with potential drought, yield, distribution, drinking water quality, and other water supply problems.
- n. Cooperates with federal, state, county, municipal, and other agencies in planning and implementation of water supply improvements.
- o. Assures the development of appropriate drought and water supply emergency plans by water suppliers.
- p. Cooperates with basin commissions, state, and other agencies in the development and implementation of comprehensive interstate and regional drought and water supply emergency plans.

(3) Waste Management

- a. Provides assistance at spills of any materials which have a potential adverse impact on the environment or on public health.
- b. Provides spill containment and mitigation activities commensurate with degree of risk posed by the incident.
- c. Provides assistance in disposing of materials resulting from the clean up of an emergency or pollution incident.
- d. Maintains detailed records of toxic waste sites in the Commonwealth.
- e. Disseminates information of federal financial assistance available to the operators of solid waste facilities.

(4) Water Quality Management

- a. Provides assistance at spills of any materials which impact ground or surface water.
- b. Provides spill containment and mitigation activities commensurate with degree of risk posed by the incident.
- c. Conducts sampling of ground or surface water during an environmental emergency or pollution incident.
- d. Reports any damage or disruption of sewage disposal facilities to Emergency Response Program Manager or Environmental Emergency Response Director for collation and transmittal to PEMA.
- e. Supplies technical advice in the repair or replacement of sewage disposal facilities damaged in a disaster.
- f. Disseminates information of federal financial assistance available to the operators of sewage disposal systems.